

HOUSE BILL 1767
By Briley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39; Title 53; Title 63 and Title 68, relative to providing prescriptive authority for psychologists.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-11-203, is amended by adding the following sentence after the first sentence of subsection (a):

Practice of psychologist also includes the authority to prescribe and dispense drugs and other treatment procedures within the scope of practice of psychologist as defined by this section. Such prescriptive authority practices include writing orders for a drug, laboratory test, or any medicine, device, or treatments, including controlled substances.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, section 63-11-208, is amended by adding the following new subsections to be appropriately designated:

(f) "Prescribing psychologist" means a psychologist with a health service provider designation, as defined in subsection 63-11-208(d), who has been certified as a prescribing psychologist for prescriptive authority as defined by the board of examiners in psychology. The board shall certify that a psychologist has met the qualifications, competencies, training, education, and experience necessary for certification as a

prescribing psychologist. Such certification authorizes a prescribing psychologist to write and sign prescriptions and engage in other prescriptive authority practices. Only the board of examiners in psychology shall certify a psychologist as a prescribing psychologist.

(g) The board of examiners in psychology shall set the standards and requirements for prescribing psychologist certification based on the educational testing guidelines on psychopharmacological training of the American Psychological Association. Such standards and requirements shall include, but not be limited to, the following didactic subject areas and preceptorship-supervision requirements:

(1) Pharmacology/psychopharmacology: child, adult, geriatric, general clinical:

(A) Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics, drug interactions, side effects, substance abuse; and

(B) Serology, laboratory, and maintenance of therapeutic drug levels;

(2) Related sciences:

(A) Neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, neurochemistry; and

(B) Pathophysiology, organ and anatomy systems of functioning and nonfunctioning and metabolism/biotransformation;

(3) Treatment applications:

(A) Consultation with other professionals;

(B) Ethics and professional issues; and

(C) Computer-enhanced record and history accountability;

(4) Preceptorship-supervision: a minimum of one (1) calendar year of supervision with at least one hundred (100) patients in accordance with

supervision-preceptorship models recommended by the American Psychological Association; and

(5) In addition to any other requirements imposed pursuant to this chapter, at least three hundred (300) hours of didactic educational instruction in accordance with the model curriculum standards for prescriptive authority as currently recommended by the American Psychological Association, such as the Prescribing Psychologists Register or other training programs meeting these educational requirements.

(h) In addition to the successful completion of the components of the training, education, and experience necessary for prescriptive authority required by this section, those seeking certification as a prescribing psychologist must also successfully pass a national examination testing competency to engage in the practice of prescriptive authority, such as the examination offered by the American Psychological Association's College of Professional Psychology or other similar examinations (e.g., International College of Prescribing Psychologists, examinations offered by the Association of state and provincial psychology boards) with the board of examiners in psychology determining passage levels for any such national examination.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-11-204(a), is amended by deleting the period at the end of the subsection and by substituting instead the following language:

with the exception of diagnosis and treatment rendered by a prescribing psychologist in accordance with § 63-11-203.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 53-10-105(b)(2), is amended by inserting the language and punctuation "or prescribing psychologist authorized pursuant to § 63-11-203," after the language and punctuation "or § 63-9-113," and before the language "who is rendering".

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-10-404(34), is amended by inserting the language and punctuation "prescribing psychologist authorized pursuant to § 63-11-203," after the language "§ 63-8-102(12)" and before the language "or other allied medical practitioner".

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-7-103(a)(2)(D), is amended by inserting the language and punctuation ", prescribing psychologist authorized pursuant to § 63-11-203" after the word "podiatrist" and before the language "or nurse".

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-402(22)(A), is amended by inserting the language and punctuation ", prescribing psychologist" after the word "optometrist" and before the word "veterinarian".

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-29-121(a), is amended by inserting the language and punctuation ", or a prescribing psychologist" after the words "chiropractic physician".

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-29-121(b), is amended by inserting the language and punctuation ", or a prescribing psychologist" after the words "chiropractic physician".

SECTION 10. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-11-218(a), is amended by adding the following language immediately before the period of the first sentence of the subsection:

as well as any initial application fees and other costs specifically associated with the annual renewal of certification for a prescribing psychologist.

SECTION 11. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.